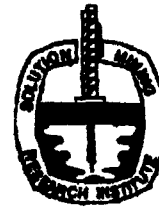


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**MEETING
PAPER**



EVALUATIONS OF BRINE STORAGE CAPACITY AT MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

Various alternatives for alleviating the problem with the existing brine system have been considered. The considerations involved comparison of initial investment, increased throughput capacity, operating cost and the utilization of the existing facilities.

Five viable alternatives for cyclical brine storage and disposal capability are discussed in terms of economic and operational constraints as follows:

1. Conversion of an idled storage well for storing natural gas and brine.
2. Increasing the brine disposal rate by installing a high pressure injection pump.
3. Injection and withdrawal of brine in an underground reservoir to have been connected to an idled well.
4. Installation of a down hole turbine and pump with a surface feed pump to withdraw brine in couple with storing product in an active storage cavern.
5. Construction of surface brine ponds to increase storage capacity and delivery.

The advantages and disadvantages of each alternative has been examined. The construction of a pair of adjacent two(2) million barrel ponds has been selected as the most viable for this application. A joint venture of constructing two brine storage ponds provides a considerable cost saving as well as a synergy in its operation.

As the storage cavern operators, we must accept our challenge to maximize the capacity and usefulness of our facilities.